

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 L-03 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15

JUSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

(ISO) W

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R 251915Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2092

UNCLAS LA PAZ 6713

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, PFOR, BL

SUBJ: GULF OIL CO.

1. ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL PRESS, BOLIVIAN DISTRICT CRIMINAL JUDGE OF LA PAZ AUGUST 23 PRONOUNCED AN INDICTMENT AGAINST ROBERT DORSEY AND CARLOS DORADO CHOPITEA EXECUTIVES OF GULF OIL CORPORATION AND OF BOLIVIAN GULF OIL RESPECTIVELY FOR THE CRIME OF ACTIVELY BRIBING OR SUBORNING BOLIVIAN CITIZENS. DORSEY HAD BEEN ASKED TO APPEAR OR BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL BUT HAD NOT DONE SO, THE NEWS ARTICLE CONTINUED.

2. THE INDICTMENT NOTED THAT FROM EVIDENCE OF THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATING COMMISSION INTO GULF OIL CORPORATION CARRIED OUT UNDER THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, THERE WAS IRREFUTABLE PROOF THAT \$1,800,000 (ONE MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS US) HAD BEEN DESTINED BY GULF FOR POLITICAL CONTRUBUTIONS IN BOLIVIA. FURTHERMORE, TEN PERCENT (ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-THOUSAND) HAD BEEN PAID TO TWO UNKNOWN BOLIVIANS. THE INDICTMENT NOTED THAT TWO DAYS AFTER THE DEATH OF GENERAL BARRIENTOS THE POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS CONTINUED. THE COURT'S CHARGES SURMISED THAT OTHER BOLIVIANS OR MEMBERS OF GULF TOOK THE REMAINDER OF THE MONEY FOR THEMSELVES USING
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THE NAME OF THE DEAD PRESIDENT.

3. THE FINAL STATEMENT CHARGED CARLOS PEDRO DORADO
CHOPITEA AND ROBERT DORSEY WITH CRIMES UNDER SANCTIONS
SET OUT IN ARTICLE 158 OF THE PENAL CODE. NO
INDICATION OF A TRIAL DATE WAS GIVEN IN THE PRESS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BRIBERY, TRIALS, COURT DECISIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LAPAZ06713
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760325-1009
From: LA PAZ
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760822/aaaaasic.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morandr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <25 JAN 2005 by morandr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GULF OIL CO.
TAGS: EINV, PFOR, BL, GULF, (DORSEY, ROBERT), (DORADO CHOPITEA, CARLOS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006